

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/551,809

Examiner

Anh Ly

Applicant(s)

FURUIKE, YOSHIMASA

Art Unit

2162

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 06/23/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,5,11,19,23,29 & 41-48 (Renumbered as 1-14).
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 18 April 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 5/06/04 & 8/10/04
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.


JEAN M. CORRIELLUS
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is response to Applicant's communications filed 06/23/2004.
2. Claims 1, 5, 11, 19, 23, 29 and 41-48 are allowed.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. David G. Posz (Reg. No. 37,701) on Wednesday 11/24/2004 @ 1:20PM.

The application has been amended as follows:

The first line of claim 47 is replaced with "**A method of managing a database according to claim 46.**"

Allowable Subject Matter

4. The present application has been thoroughly reviewed. Upon searching a variety of databases, the examiner respectfully submits that claims 1, 5, 11, 19, 23, 29 and 41-48 are allowed in light of the applicant's argument and in light of the prior of made record.

Reason For Allowance

5. The following is an examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance:

The present invention is directed to an apparatus and a method of managing database comprising an attribution record group forming the step of classifying data stored in a database. The plurality of attribution record groups corresponding to each attribution defined in the database.

The closest prior art, US Patent No. 6,393,149 of Friederich et al. (hereinafter Friederich) teaches the data compression method to geographic data that has been organized to facilitate access and use by a navigation application program. The geographic database contains geographic regions and road segment data entity as a record, and also the database is organized into groupings or parcels as attribution record groups. However, Friederich either singularly or in combination, fails to anticipate

Art Unit: 2162

or render obvious the claimed "corresponding to each of the attributions, wherein the plural attribution record groups includes a search key attribution record group for determining if others of the plural attribution record groups are to be decompressed."

These distinct features in conjunction with other limitations of the independent and dependent claims 1, 5, 11, 19, 23, 29 and 41-48 are hereby allowable.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Contact Information

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anh Ly whose telephone number is (571) 272-4039 or via E-Mail: ANH.LY@USPTO.GOV or Fax to (571) 273-4039. The examiner can normally be reached on TUESDAY – THURSDAY from 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Breene, can be reached on (571) 272-4107 or Primary Examiner Jean Corrielus (571) 272-4032.


Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to: Central Fax Center (703) 872-9306


JEAN M. CORRIELUS
PRIMARY EXAMINER

ANH LY 
NOV. 29th, 2004